

# Michigan Ethanol Working Group News



## Who We Are

The Ethanol Working Group (EWG) is a coalition of private and non-profit organizations, universities, and local and state government agencies interested in the promotion of ethanol in Michigan.

## Contact Information

If you are interested in receiving the Michigan EWG News and/or have ethanol-related information you would like to submit for this publication, contact Kelly Launder, Michigan Biomass Energy Program Coordinator at (517) 241-6223 or by email at: [klaund@michigan.gov](mailto:klaund@michigan.gov)

Additional ethanol information is available on the Michigan Biomass Energy Program website at <http://michiganbioenergy.org> and the Corn Marketing Program of Michigan website at [www.micorn.org](http://www.micorn.org)

## **EWG Activities**

### **Ethanol Labeling Requirement discussed at May meeting**

At the June EWG meeting a representative from the MI Dept. of Agriculture-Motor Fuels Quality Division discussed the Michigan ethanol labeling law and tank storage issues. Labeling requirements include that the label be permanently affixed to the pump and that it includes the wording "Contains Ethanol" with the percentage and octane rating. Any additional wording such as "good for the environment" or "homegrown" must be put on a separate label. The labels can be any color as long as contrasting colors and print are used. The MDA representative also reported that there are not any tank storage issues with ethanol as long as water contamination limits are not exceeded. (There can't be more than 2 inches of water in a tank.) If excessive water contamination occurs it may cause phase separation with ethanol-blended gasoline.

### **EWG Takes a Summer Recess**

The Ethanol Working Group will not hold regular meetings in July and August and will reconvene in September. The EWG News will also not be printed until September.

## **Ethanol Plant Update**

The Michigan Department of Agriculture recently made the final payment of the \$4.7 million ethanol grant/incentive to Michigan Ethanol, LLC for the Caro ethanol plant. Michigan Ethanol, LLC is still working on a partnership agreement with Michigan Processors, LLC.

## **Additional Updates**

### **Michigan State University Study Shows Positive Energy Balance for Ethanol**

A recently published MSU study found that .56MJ of energy associated with ethanol is required to generate one MJ of energy. "Therefore [the researchers conclude], the available energy from ethanol is much higher than the input energy for producing ethanol." Researchers also noted that, "the use of ethanol as a transportation fuel would significantly reduce domestic use of petroleum." The report is available on the Renewable Fuel Association website at: [www.ethanolRFA.org/Allocation\\_Procedures.pdf](http://www.ethanolRFA.org/Allocation_Procedures.pdf)

### **New E85 Flexible Fuel Vehicles Available in 2003**

DaimlerChrysler recently announced that three E85 vehicles will be added to their 2003 product line. The Dodge Stratus Sedan, Chrysler Sebring Sedan and Convertible, and the Dodge Cargo Minivan will be available with the E85 fuel option at no incremental cost.

### **NEVC Announces Release of Updated E85 Handbook**

The *Handbook for Handling, Storing, and Dispensing E85* was recently updated and is available on the National Ethanol Vehicle Coalition website at: [www.e85fuel.com/pdf/ethanol\\_guidebook.pdf](http://www.e85fuel.com/pdf/ethanol_guidebook.pdf) The handbook includes information on E85 compatible vehicles, fuel specifications and standards, storage and dispensing requirements, and pricing worksheets.